



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 024444-747

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9/4/01
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Anders LENANDER et al.) Group Art Unit: 1775
Application No.: 09/545,448) Examiner: A. Turner
Filed: April 7, 2000)
For: CEMENTED CARBIDE INSERT)

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SEP 04 2001
TC 1700

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In complete response to the Official Action dated May 8, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 12, with the following:

--Methods to improve the toughness behaviour by introducing thick essentially gamma phase-free and binder phase-enriched surface zone with a thickness of about 20-40 μm on the inserts by a so-called "gradient sintering" techniques have been known for some time e.g. US 4,277,283, US 4,497,874, US 4,548,786, US 4,610,931, US 5,484,468, US 5,549,980, US 5,649,279, US 5,729,823. The characteristics of these patents are that the surface zone has a different composition than the bulk composition, and is depleted of gamma phase and binder phase enriched.--

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